

FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

The Cotton Markets are Generally Lower on Heavy Receipts—Neil's Crop Estimate Reiterated—New York Stock Market—Other Markets.

New York. December 6.—The leading names of today's stock market were on London houses bought about 400 shares of St. Paul and a few hundred shares of Atchison. There was also some selling of bonds.

The regular dividends of \$ per cent on our common and 1% on sugar preferred were announced in the last hour, and then orders had been waiting for the announcement made a vigorous attack on the stocks, causing a sharp decline. Some orders were believed to be in the market and the rally before the close was attributed to their execution.

Speculation advanced on covering of shorts in anticipation of the declaration of the four cent quarterly dividend. Bearish orders were the principal sellers, and, in view of almost all the speculative buyers members were for their own account.

The selling of general electric was by our traders, who had little trouble in depressing the price.

Cargo gas was sold late yesterday and gas today on a report that E. C. Benedict intended to retire from the active management as a result of differences with his associates. Mr. Benedict denied the reports and said that perfect harmony prevailed. He advocated a conservative course and believed that the dividend should not be more than 1% per cent in view of his associates' belief it would not affect the rate, and accordingly the dividend of 1% per cent in cash was paid.

Money continues in abundant supply and is still offered by an increasing number of lenders, who are competitors with each other for loans of the best money, irrespective of terms. The demand for money is light and good loans are scarce.

Mercantile paper is in demand from all sources and a much larger volume could be placed if the best names were obtainable. The supply is quite limited, especially if the highest grade of bills and quotations continue low.

Robert A. Conklin. New Orleans, La., December 8.—Atwood & Co. say:

The downward course of Liverpool today was again as disappointing as was its upward tendency yesterday. Prices close again at \$5.40 decline with spot sales of 1,000 bushels. Private cables state that the decline was due to a confirmation by Mr. Neil of his crop estimate of 7,800,000 bales for the year.

We must confess that we can hardly indicate these extreme estimates either in the crop movement or by comparison with previous years. The flat, however, has gone forth, and until these repeated estimates meet contradiction in a smaller movement, the foreign spinners will remain in suspense.

The semi-weekly statement of thirteen weeks as published today in the *Advertiser* shows that this week will be only 10 bushels less than last year, while the statement of the packers of staple bales this week, shows an increase of 1,000 bushels, and for the coming time there is no change.

The cotton market is in a dead lock at these times over last year is about 10 bushels.

We know interior towns are an index to the market remaining in the interior statement of the cotton grower can be made to the percentage which yet remains in his hands. It would seem that he has given up all hope of getting a market to realize anything like the large estimates which are being cabled to him.

The Master of the New Orleans exchange publishes a statement showing the average decrease of weight of cotton as compared with last year to be about 10 bushels.

There is a shortage in the market of about 10 bushels.

Our receipts today are \$1,800 against last week and 37,722 last year. The market is in a dead lock, with estimated receipts at this port tomorrow against 14,000 last year.

But in sympathy with the considerable decline in New York the spot market is at 10-cent decline, and sales of 1,000 bushels were recorded.

Commercial Tips.

Reported over private wires of Atwood & Co.:

New York. The market closed dull with the exception of sugar, which was heavily traded by the Commodity Exchange, and the impression that insiders were on the declaration of the regular securities were very weak, especially the second, which declined 2 per cent.

It is claimed there is no basis for the fears of financial difficulties, and the company is loaning five million dollars in New York and Boston, and will be obliged to interest payments.

Trade fluctuated within narrow limits, as neglected on account of the division of management of the divisional electric arm displayed inherent strength.

Oil and cattle feeders was strong throughout from Washington that the price of oil at least 15 cents higher and the Cattle Commission reflected their short contracts very materially.

The general interest was without any sign of any kind.

New York Commercial Article.

New York. December 6.—The Post says:

"Today's market was as yesterday, although at the same time there were several fractional reductions in the higher London prices. Both the London and Liverpool, however, the same quoted price, so far as the above, for it is pretty well known that the price of cotton is not fixed by the exchange, but by the negotiations between speculators and the market. These prices were not so high as they were yesterday. The only feature was the advance in the afternoon, on no particular development, but the partial recovery, however, did not materialize.

Neil's Crop Estimate.

New Orleans. December 6.—McElroy

announces their present estimate of 10,000 million bales to yield 10,000 bushels to Liverpool to close the year. The spot sales were however, however, lower than the previous week, and the market was ascertained to be in a position to receive the partial recovery, however, the partial recovery, however, did not materialize.

Although started weak as usual, the market gained the afternoon, and closed with a rise of 10 cents.

The buying here today was good character, and we believe, induced by the weak-

COLEMAN & SCHULTE, COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

Houston. December 6.—**COLEMAN & SCHULTE, COMMISSION MERCHANTS.** Has just received another large lot of Royal Owl Diamond Dust and King Cotton decorated brands of flour. Just received several mixed cars of provisions, each car containing 100 bushels. Also received one car each of Austin Saliva, Pan Cake Flour, White Silver Flake Oats in packages, grits, flour and cream meal in half and whole barrels.

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FAMILIAR FEATURES!

But both Mary and her young man were pleased with the tune.—Pooh.

Playing Tag With Her.

"There has been no heat in my room all day," casually remarked the star boarder at the Sunday evening tea-table.

"Why, it's something new for you to complain of the cold," Mr. Fender, "simply startling the fact."

"Oh, I'm not complaining. I'm merely stating the fact," observed Mr. Fender mildly.

"I can't account for it. I saw the furnace running night and day, filled back all the time, and with the high price of coal I don't know how I'm going to make out. But I'm sorry you're uncomfortable," groaned Mrs. Lawrence.

"Oh, I haven't been uncomfortable the weather is milder now, you know."

"Still you must have wanted some heat. Are you sure you didn't get any?"

"No, none at all."

"Well, the pipes must be out of order or something, if you didn't get a particle of heat all day long."

"No, I didn't, but I have a theory that may account for it."

"Oh, what is it?" cried Mrs. Lawrence eagerly.

"Well," replied Mr. Fender, with a winning smile, "you see, I closed the register when I went to bed last night and haven't opened it since."

And the husband retired behind her back in deep disgust.—New York.

The Three Tailors.

Three tailors—an Englishman, Welshman and Irishman—were bragging of their attainments in their particular line of business.

Says the Englishman.—Way, if a man happened to be walking on the other side of the street, I could take his measures at a glance.

Says the Welshman.—That's nothing. If I were only to see the tip of his shoulder coming round the corner, I could measure him, look you.

Says the Irishman.—Show us the corner he wist round, and Old Jim'll—Pymouth Fagoo.

A Drop In Price.

"I'd give \$100 for a pin right now!" exclaimed Singleton as he hunted around his bachelor apartments, holding one side of his suspenders and his trousers together. Just then he put his foot on one, and as it passed his sock, he pricked his toe in.

"Dash the d—d fool ignorance of that no-fault foreign chamberlain! I'll have her hours' stock, if I hang torr!"—Truck.

Out of Site.

"Are you having a pleasant time?" asked a lady of a little miss at a fashionable ride-dress party.

"Yes, thank you."

"And will your papa and mamma come in?"

"In dear, no. Papa and mamma don't belong to the same set."—Truck.

One Miss Pimpernel.

"How do you like living in the country, Becky?"

"Fine, thank you."

"Did you get much variety on your bill?"

"Indeed we do. Why we've had a new cook every week since we went there."

Open Eyes.

"Do you think the men ought to be faced by the women?"

"Yes, no. It's not good for the men to be faced by the women."

Men of All Ages.

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